

REMARKS

The Office Action of August 8, 2006 was received and carefully reviewed. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the currently pending rejections are requested for the reasons advanced in detail below.

Filed concurrently herewith is a *Request for a Three Month Extension of Time* which extends the shortened statutory period of response to February 8, 2007. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that this response is being timely filed.

Claims 1-12 were pending prior to the instant amendment. By this amendment, claim 7 is amended. As a result, Claims 1-12 remain pending in the instant application.

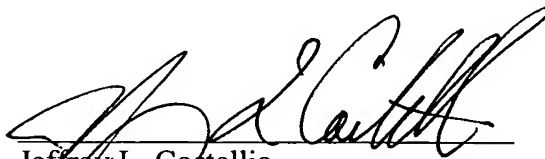
With respect to the Office Action, Applicants acknowledge with appreciation the allowance of claims 1-6.

Claims 7-12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Applicants amend claim 7 by changing "earners" to "carriers" in order to clarify the intended meaning of the claim and overcome this rejection.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully requested that the rejections of record be reconsidered and withdrawn by the Examiner, that claims 1-12 be allowed and that the application be passed to issue. If a conference would expedite prosecution of the instant application, the Examiner is hereby invited to telephone the undersigned to arrange such a conference.

Respectfully submitted,



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